

## SAMPLE LETTER

November 26, 2003

Honorable Mayor John Marks  
And Members of City Commission  
City Commission Office  
300 South Adams Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Re: Mahan Drive Corridor Management Study  
City Electric's Proposed Transmission Line

Dear Mayor Marks:

The Board of County Commissioners hired Genesis Group to conduct a Corridor Management Study along Mahan Drive (US 90), between Capital Circle northeast to ½ mile east of I-10. Our consultants have been discussing the status and project location alternatives of the proposed transmission line with City Electric representatives for the last 12 months.

In light of the recent release of the Final Study Report on the City's proposed Eastern Transmission Line (TPL) on November 14, 2003, and a final decision by the City Commission scheduled for the very near future, we request that the City Commission delay is approval until Leon County has an opportunity to discuss its impacts with you thoroughly. We also request the City's consideration to either locate the proposed transmission line along another route besides Mahan Drive or provide enhanced facility design to reduce adverse impacts along this corridor.

Mahan Drive is a primary gateway into Leon County. As you are aware, plans are underway by FDOT to widen the corridor to 4 lanes between I-10 and Dempsey Mayo. Plans are also in progress by our consultant to enhance landscaping, preserve neighborhoods, manage increasing development pressures and establish a more balanced transportation system with multi-modal facilities.

We would like to give input regarding features including:

- 1) Underground placement of transmission and/or distribution lines along the entire route or in specific areas, including underground for all crossings of Mahan Drive;
- 2) Provision of a bike/pedestrian trail located within the transmission line easement;
- 3) Tree and tree cluster protection by strict pruning of large trees rather than removal, and replanting a buffer where removal has take place, which will serve to camouflage the ETL, and protect neighborhoods;
- 4) Pole height modifications, aesthetic pole materials and colors, and pole spacing consideration to reduce tree removal/pruning and impacts to environment;
- 5) Clarification regarding the exact location of Line – regarding whether or not it follows the existing utility easement in all areas;
- 6) Plans to purchase homes in close proximity to the Line.

Including enhanced features now will ensure a more aesthetically pleasing gateway and protection of neighborhoods that will last a lifetime. Commissioner Bob Rackleff has been appointed to work with the City's transmission line project and will be in contact with you and City staff to discuss specific requests.

Lastly, we would also like to express our appreciation to the Electric Department staff for keeping Commissioner Rackleff and Genesis Group informed, and for attending the Mahan Drive Corridor public meetings. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Jane Sauls  
Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

cc: County Commissioners  
Parwez Alam, County Administrator  
Anita Favors, City Manager  
Rick Fernandez, Assistant City Manager  
Kevin Wailes, Electric Utilities Director  
Brian Fisher, City Electric  
Paul DeFrank, City Electric  
Hallie Calebrese, City Public Information  
David McDevitt, Leon Co. Growth Management  
Tony Park, Leon Co. Growth Management  
Anil Panicker, TLC PD/Mahan Project Manager  
Debbie Dantin, Genesis Group